Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Display~~ A display device of the thin-film electroluminescent display type, comprising:

a first layer having an electroluminescent material ~~between~~

a second layer forming ~~the~~ a transparent front electrode ~~and~~

a third layer having at least one first rear electrode, the first layer being between the second layer and the third layer ~~characterised in that said display comprises, behind the third layer,~~

a fourth layer behind the third layer and having an electroluminescent material; and

a fifth layer with at least one second rear electrode masking an area which is not covered by the first rear electrode.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device as claimed in ~~the preceding~~ Claim 1, wherein the second electrode overlaps ~~the~~ an edge of the first electrode.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first electrode covers a surface corresponding to a display background and has at least one hollow area, the second electrode masking at least part of the said hollow area.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device as claimed ~~in the preceding~~ Claim 3, wherein ~~since~~ the first electrode has several hollow areas, and the fifth layer has second electrodes shaped so as to be complementary to the said hollow areas such that the first and second electrodes together mask all of the display background.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first and second electrodes ~~are~~ may be activated so as to display no information.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the electroluminescent layers ~~were~~ are formed from an electroluminescent ink.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Device~~ The device as claimed in ~~the preceding~~ Claim 6, wherein the electrodes ~~were~~ are obtained by depositing conductive particles suspended in a liquid medium.

8. (New) The device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the electoluminescent material of the first layer and the fourth layer can be controlled such that no areas are visible between portions of the electroluminescent material controllable to display information.

9. (New) A display device comprising:

luminescent material;

electrodes configured to control illumination of the luminescent material such that the luminescent material can be controlled to display information;

wherein all of a display background can be controlled to be illuminated by luminescent material.

10. (New) The display device of claim 9, wherein the luminescent material comprises,

a first layer comprising luminescent material; and

a second layer comprising luminescent material;

wherein the luminescent material of the first layer and the luminescent material of the second layer are separately controllable.

11. (New) The display device of claim 10, wherein luminescent material is printed on the first layer.

12. (New) The display device of claim 10, wherein the electrodes comprise

a first electrode associated with control of a section of luminescent material of the first layer;

a second electrode associated with control of the section of luminescent material of the first layer; and

a third electrode associated with control of a section of luminescent material of the second layer.

13. (New) The display device of claim 12, wherein the first electrode is also associated with control of the section of luminescent material of the second layer.

14. (New) The display device of claim 12, wherein

the second electrode is located in front of the first layer and the second layer;

the first electrode is located behind the first layer; and

the third electrode is located behind the second layer.

15. (New) The display device of claim 14, wherein the third electrode overlaps the first electrode.

16. (New) The display device of claim 10, wherein the first layer has a first set of areas that can be controlled to be illuminated, the second layer has a second set of areas that can be controlled to be illuminated, and the first set of areas and second set of areas are complimentary.

17. (New) The display device of claim 9, wherein the luminescent material can be controlled such that no areas are visible between portions of the luminescent material controllable to display information.

18. (New) A display device comprising:

luminescent material;

electrodes configured to control illumination of the luminescent material such that the luminescent material can be controlled to display information;

wherein the luminescent material can be controlled such that no areas are visible between portions of the luminescent material controllable to display information.

19. (New) The display device of claim 18, further comprising a first layer having first luminescent material and a second layer having second luminescent material, wherein the first luminescent material may be controlled to be illuminated to display information and the second luminescent material may be controlled to be illuminated to mask spaces in the first luminescent material.

20. (New) The display device of claim 18, wherein all of a display background can be controlled to be illuminated by luminescent material.

21. (New) The display device of claim 18, further comprising,

a first layer having a first electrode,

a second layer, behind the first layer, having luminescent material,

a third layer, behind the second layer, having a second electrode,

a fourth layer, behind the third layer, having luminescent material, and

a fifth layer behind the fourth layer, having a third electrode.

22. (New) A display device for use in an automobile, comprising:

a first electroluminescent active element located in a first plane; and

a second electroluminescent active element located in a second plane different than the first plane.